Foreign Crops and MARKETS

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FOR RELEASE

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LATE NEWS

Crop conditions in Bulgaria are reported to be good as of the end of April with very good conditions prevailing in Yugoslavia. Moisture has been ample. Winter grains are well advanced and spring plantings have been conducted under favorable circumstances. Some seed shortages are reported for potatoes and hemp. Fruit trees are generally in good condition although retarded by some frost in Bulgaria during April. Most crops are expected to be normal.

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The Government of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan has announced an increase in the export tax on cotton and cottonseed from 3 percent to 5 percent ad valorem effective April 23, 1948.

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The final official estimate placed the 1947-48 cotton crop in Burma at 35,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) from 192,000 harvested acres after abandonment of 29,000 acres. Corresponding estimates for 1946-47 were 21,000 bales, 135,000 acres and 36,000 acres. Export surplus from the 1947-48 crop amounts to about 28,000 bales.

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A Trade Mission from Japan, composed of cotton, jute and machinery specialists left Tokyo on April 29 to visit India to study the possibilities for exchange of Japanese machinery for Indian products, principally cotton and jute. The visit is being made in response to an invitation from the Government of India. The Mission will also visit Pakistan.

WORLD CITRUS PRODUCTION NOW FORECAST AT 359 MILLION BOXES IN 1947-48

Citrus fruit production in the major producing countries of the world for the 1947-48 season is now estimated at 359 million boxes, an increase of 5 percent over the 1946-47 crop of 343 million and 35 percent above the 1935-39 average production of 266 million. Of the total production of 359 million boxes, oranges and tangerines account for 266 million, grapefruit 65 million, and lemons 28 million.

Oranges. Production of oranges, estimated at 266 million boxes, is 5 percent higher than the 254 million produced during the preceding season and 28 percent above the prewar (1935-39) average of 208 million. North American groves are expected to produce 48 percent of the 1947-48 total, largely in the United States; Europe 15 percent, mostly Italy and Spain; Asia 12 percent, principally Palestine and Japan; South America 17 percent, chiefly in Argentina and Brazil; Africa 7 percent and Australia and New Zealand 1 percent.

In the United States the crop is estimated at 110 million boxes of oranges and 3.9 million boxes of tangerines. This compares with 114 million boxes of oranges and 4.7 million boxes of tangerines produced during the 1946-47 season. In Jamaica production is estimated at 760 thousand boxes, nearly half again as large as last season's estimated production of 550 thousand boxes. Production in Mexico, estimated at 11.1 million boxes, is about 3 percent larger than the 10.8 million boxes produced the preceding season. The extreme drought during the spring and summer of 1947 caused some of the fruit to fall before maturing and adversely affected the quality.

Production in European countries in 1947-48 is estimated at 40.7 million boxes, as compared with 30.6 million in the previous season and an average of 37.2 million for the prewar years. Official production figures for the whole of Spain indicate the crop for this season to be 27.6 million boxes, 55 percent above the 17.8 million produced during the preceding season, and 14 percent above the 24.2 million produced during the 5 years (1935-39). The crop estimated for 1947-48 is the largest since 1941-42 when 27.3 million boxes were produced, but still below the 32 million boxes produced before the Spanish Civil War. Growing conditions during 1947 were favorable for the development of the citrus crop and the quality of the fruit is considered to be good. Italy's 1947-48 crop of 11.6 million boxes is about the same as last year's crop and the prewar average.

Orange production in Greece, estimated at 1.5 million boxes, is 36 percent higher than that of the preceding season of 1.1 million boxes. This increase is largely the result of better care of citrus groves and an increased supply of fertilizers and pesticides. The Greek Government is encouraging the planting of new trees and compared with 1939 there has been an increase of 16 percent in orange groves and 26 percent in tangerines.

In Asia, production is forecast at 32.2 million boxes, as compared with 26 million for 1946-47 and 28 million for the 5-year (1935-39) average. Palestine and Japan are each estimated at 13 million boxes. In Palestine the 1947-48 crop is about 41 percent larger than the production of 9.2 million in 1946-47 and 49 percent above the 8.7 million, the 5-year

(Text Continued on Page 360; tables follow)

CITRUS FRUIT: Production in specified countries, average 1935-39, annual 1943-47
ORANGES, including tangerines

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947 a/
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
North America:						
Costa Rica	6	33	30	30	30	30
Mexico	4,761	8,317	8,943	9,280	10,778	11,098
United States	67,034	106,651	113,210	104,350	118,680	113,860
Cuba	1,050	1,250	625	1,000	1,200	925
Dominican Republic	500	492	321	485	428	400
Jamaica	595	500	525	600	550	760
Trinidad and Tobago	55	70	75	75	77	80
Total	74,001	117,313	123,729	115,820	131,743	127,153
Europe:						
Aegean Islands	43	40	40	40	40	40
France	37	6	20	21	30	30
Greece	1,246	1,000	1,000	1,216	1,124	1,468
Italy	11,701	11,621	8,489	9,715	11,609	11,590
Spain	24,167	24,901	30,576	26,603	17,772	27,589
Total	37,194	37,568	40,125	37,595	30,575	40,717
Asia:						
Cyprus	441	325	369	317	600	600
Iran	483	1,575	1,300	1,500	1,574	1,827
Lebanon	b/ 1,093	b/ 1,095	827	1,553	1,211	2,280
Palestine	8,652	8,400	6,000	8,000	9,199	13,000
Syria	c/	c/	70	70	73	81
Turkey	1,343	774	908	1,110	1,265	1,300
Japan	15,895	17,500	15,669	11,912	12,000	13,000
Philippine Islands	136	100	90	90	90	90
Total	28,043	29,769	25,233	24,552	26,012	32,178
South America:						
Argentina	9,212	11,240	11,136	9,092	10,689	10,000
Brazil	34,466	27,804	28,621	29,967	25,625	27,000
Chile	250	415	440	500	500	500
Ecuador	580	500	475	493	444	336
Paraguay	5,000	7,394	7,000	6,700	6,450	6,500
Surinam	20	25	36	43	86	100
Uruguay	1,300	1,100	900	794	782	800
Total	50,828	48,478	48,608	47,589	44,576	45,236

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CITRUS FRUIT: Production in specified countries, average 1935-39, annual 1943-47
ORANGES, including tangerines

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947 a/
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
Africa:						
Algeria	3,199	3,449	3,221	4,298	3,055	3,401
British East Africa	100	140	150	144	150	150
Egypt	6,455	7,252	6,915	6,742	6,900	7,000
French Morocco	1,203	1,464	1,766	2,149	1,858	2,211
Northern Rhodesia	11	12	13	13	13	13
Southern Rhodesia	193	202	227	259	215	225
Tunisia	323	409	488	362	300	400
Union of South Africa	4,000	6,860	4,827	4,505	5,270	4,700
Total	15,484	19,788	17,607	18,472	17,761	18,100
Oceania:						
Australia	2,683	2,666	2,875	2,606	2,913	3,120
New Zealand	23	9	14	5	10	11
Total	2,706	2,675	2,889	2,611	2,923	3,131
World Total	208,256	255,591	258,191	246,639	253,590	266,515

GRAPEFRUIT

North America:						
United States	31,787	56,090	52,180	63,450	59,520	60,860
Cuba	375	350	325	212	195	165
Jamaica	213	250	275	266	300	290
Puerto Rico	448	500	500	500	500	525
Trinidad and Tobago	70	130	200	241	291	300
Total	32,893	57,320	53,480	64,669	60,806	62,140
Asia:						
Palestine	1,445	800	692	800	1,238	1,500
South America:						
Argentina	49	182	112	99	100	100
Africa:						
Algeria	--	11	15	16	55	91
French Morocco	25	24	37	42	70	82
Union of South Africa	431	968	681	636	744	670
Total	456	1,003	733	694	869	843
World Total	34,843	59,305	55,017	66,262	63,013	64,583

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CITRUS FRUIT: Production in specified countries, average 1935-39, annual 1943-47

LEMONS

Continent and country	Average 1935-39	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947 a/
	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes	1,000 boxes
North America:						
United States	9,552	11,050	12,550	14,450	13,760	12,200
Europe:						
Aegean Islands	9	10	10	10	10	10
Greece	367	375	375	328	406	415
Italy	9,637	8,092	6,784	6,373	7,138	10,153
Spain	1,444	1,573	1,431	812	1,474	1,566
Total	11,457	10,050	8,600	7,523	9,028	12,144
Asia:						
Cyprus	53	56	43	89	83	85
Lebanon	b/ 464	b/ 350	336	725	435	638
Palestine	88	60	312	350	353	500
Syria	c/	c/	8	9	9	10
Total	605	466	699	1,173	880	1,233
South America:						
Argentina	371	1,075	998	1,021	1,134	1,150
Chile	250	290	290	350	450	400
Total	621	1,365	1,288	1,371	1,584	1,550
Africa:						
Algeria	102	95	82	119	102	145
Egypt	83	100	140	150	150	150
French Morocco	10	8	6	14	24	31
Tunisia	45	145	174	174	180	175
Union of South Africa	142	242	170	106	124	112
Total	382	590	572	563	580	613
Oceania:						
Australia	308	364	335	356	456	428
New Zealand	65	56	62	54	59	56
Total	373	420	397	410	515	484
World Total	22,990	23,941	24,106	25,490	26,347	28,224

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States foreign-service officers, results of office research and other information. Production estimates relate to the crop from bloom of year shown. Harvesting in Northern Hemisphere countries begins about November and in Southern Hemisphere about February of the following year. Production in foreign countries converted to boxes of the following weights. Oranges, 70 pounds; grapefruit, 80 pounds; lemons, 76 pounds. a/ Preliminary. b/ Inclues Syria. c/ Included in Lebanon.

(1935-39) average. Iranian production is now estimated at 1.8 million boxes, as compared with 1.6 last season and 483 thousand in prewar years. The increase in production is attributed to reduced insect damage and an increase in the number of bearing trees. Practically the entire production of citrus fruit is consumed locally.

Production is South America is forecast at 45.2 million boxes, about 1 percent more than the 1946-47 production of 44.6 million but 11 percent below the 5 year average of 50.8 million. Of the 1947-48 total, the forecast for Argentina of 10 million boxes is 22 percent of the South American total and for Brazil of 27 million is 60 percent. Because of tristeza in Brazil, the number of trees in the exporting areas is about one-half of the prewar stand.

In Africa production for 1947-48 in Union of South Africa is forecast at about 10 percent less or 4.7 million boxes as compared with 5.3 million last season and 4.0 million for the 5-year average. Algeria's citrus crop has grown rather steadily in recent years and is now estimated at 3.4 million boxes, 10 percent more than was produced the previous year and 6 percent above the 1935-39 average of 3.2 million. Production has not increased in proportion to the number of trees. This is a result of a shortage of agricultural equipment, nitrogenous fertilizers and to some extent, water. Tangerines and clementines suffered more from the drought than did other citrus fruits.

Production in Australia and New Zealand amounts to around 3 million boxes annually.

Grapefruit. Production of grapefruit is now estimated at 64.6 million boxes, which is about 3 percent more than the estimated production of 63 million in 1946-47 and 86 percent above the 1935-39 average of 34.8 million. The United States is the largest commercial producer in the world, producing 60.9 million or 94 percent of the estimated world total of 64.6 million. The West Indies (Cuba, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, and Puerto Rico) produce about 1.3 million boxes annually. Palestine produces 1.5 million boxes, about the same as prewar. Argentina, Algeria and French Morocco each produce about 100 thousand boxes, while Union of South Africa produces a little better than 500 thousand.

Lemons. World production of lemons, forecast at 28.2 million boxes for 1947-48, is 7 percent more than the estimate of 26.3 million in 1946 and 23 percent above the prewar average of 23 million boxes. Of the above 1947-48 total, the United States and Italy produce 22.4 million boxes, 12.2 (43 percent) and 10.2 million (36 percent) respectively. Production in the United States is estimated at 12.2 million boxes, 12 percent below the 13.8 million produced last season but 27 percent more than the prewar average of 9.6 million. Italy's forecast at 10.2 million boxes is 44 percent more than the previous crop year's production of 7.1 million boxes but only 500 thousand boxes more than the 5-year average of 9.6 million. Nearly all of this production is in Sicily. For Spain, the forecast at 1.6 million boxes is just a little more than the production for 1946 and prewar. Production in Asia, estimated at 1.2 million boxes is 40 percent more than for the previous year and is double the prewar production. Lebanon and Palestine make up nearly all this production.

(Continued on Page)

WORLD COTTON CROP ESTIMATE REVISED DOWNWARD

World cotton production in 1947-48 is now estimated at 25,390,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross), a reduction of 730,000 bales from the estimate released last October. The estimate for 1946-47 is revised upward by 75,000 bales to 21,570,000 but both figures are well below the prewar (1935-39) average of 31,676,000 bales.

The downward revision in the 1947-48 estimate is attributed to unfavorable weather and preference for food crops in practically all cotton producing countries in the Southern Hemisphere and to failure of the U.S.S.R. to reach the goal figure reported last year. The 18 percent increase in the world crop above the exceptionally small crop of 1946-47 resulted almost entirely from increased production in the United States, the U.S.S.R. and China.

Production of 499,000 bales in Mexico in 1947 was a near-record crop, showing a moderate increase of 8.5 percent above the 1946 estimate. The acreage increase from 843,000 to 865,000 acres represented only 2.6 percent but growing conditions were generally favorable and yields were higher. Average quality was no higher than in 1945, however, because of excessive rain during the latter part of the picking season.

The 1947 crop in the United States is now estimated at 11,851,000 bales (final estimate) from 21,269,000 acres harvested, compared with the exceptionally small crop of 8,640,000 bales from 17,615,000 acres in 1946. Average yield of ginned cotton increased from 235.2 pounds per acre in 1946 to 267.2 pounds in 1947. Both acreage figures are somewhat below the acreage goals previously fixed by the Department of Agriculture at 20,200,000 acres for 1946 and 23,100,000 for 1947. The 1948 goal is 21,894,000 acres.

Weather conditions were generally favorable in the western half of the Cotton Belt in 1947. In the States east of the Mississippi River the crop was delayed by excessive rain at planting time and cool weather in these States extending through late June promoted rapid increase in boll weevil infestation. Hot dry weather in August and early September, however, checked weevil damage. Favorable weather for harvesting was reported thoughout the Cotton Belt, except in the Carolinas, and losses of open cotton were relatively light.

In Europe, production showed a tendency to rise slightly except in Spain where more favorable prices for food crops caused some diversion from cotton planting. This factor has also tended to prevent any appreciable expansion of cotton acreage in other countries of southern and southeastern Europe.

Reports from the U.S.S.R. indicate that the cotton acreage goal of 3,625,000 acres was reached, representing an increase of 13 percent over that of 1946, but the production goal was not reached. The 1947 preliminary estimate of 2,600,000 bales represents an increase of 16 percent over the 1946 crop of 2,240,000 bales but is substantially less than the 1947 goal of nearly 3,000,000 bales. More fertilizer was available for farmers last year than in 1946 but labor and growing conditions in the principal

producing areas were unfavorable, causing delay in cultivation and irrigation of cotton fields.

The 1947 crop in Iran is estimated at 80,000 bales representing a 25 percent increase over the 1946 crop of 64,000 bales. The increase is attributed partly to a small increase in acreage stimulated by favorable prices at planting time and the Government's offer to contract for cotton at fixed prices with advance payments to growers. The Government's "Cotton Monopoly", in existence during 1935 to 1945, was abolished on July 15, 1945. Cotton acreage was reduced by about half during the war years (after 1941) in order to grow more food crops and has not been increased significantly since that year.

The ban against cotton cultivation in a large part of southern Iran, imposed several years ago because of the prevalence of certain insects and plant diseases, was lifted late in 1947 except in a small area along the Persian Gulf. Another factor tending to stimulate cotton production is the ban on poppy cultivation.

Cotton acreage in Syria was increased from 49,000 acres in 1946 to 52,000 in 1947 but production declined from 22,000 bales to 14,000 as a result of a severe drought at planting time (March and April). Seed degeneration was also reported as a factor influencing lower yields in recent years.

The 1947 crop of 250,000 bales in Turkey is about equal to the average for the previous 10 years. Acreage and yields were lower in 1947 than in 1946 because of an early spring drought last year. The 1947 crop exceeded consumption requirements by only about 10,000 bales.

Cotton growing in Burma was encouraged by the Japanese during the war years, but declined since the end of the war reaching its low point in 1946 when 21,000 bales were harvested from 135,000 acres. Acreage and production rose in 1947 to 177,000 acres and 33,000 bales. Export surplus from this crop is estimated at 28,000 bales.

Production in China has been rising steadily since 1943, reaching an estimated 2,145,000 bales in 1947 from 6,240,000 acres. This is the highest for any recent year but considerably less than the 1935-39 average of 2,855,000 bales. Weather conditions were relatively favorable in 1947 and 1946 but considerable damage by insects and diseases was reported. Transportation is still very difficult because of military operations and other disruptions and not more than 685,000 bales of the 1947 crop are expected to reach the mill centers.

The 1947-48 cotton crop in all India was recently estimated by private sources in India at 3,450,000 bales (of 500 pounds gross) including 2,513,000 for the Dominion of India and 937,000 for Pakistan. This estimate is slightly less than the 1946-47 estimate of 3,484,000 bales. There was a sharp reduction in Pakistan which was partly offset by an increase in India. Civil disturbances in Pakistan followed by mass migration was the principal cause of the reduction. In southern Pakistan, breaks in the irrigation canals and resulting floods at critical periods of crop development caused poor yields in some areas. In Central India, hot dry weather in October caused premature opening of cotton bolls. Weather conditions in the remainder of India were generally favorable.

(Text continued on Page 375; table follows)

COTTON: World acreage and production, by continents and countries, average 1935-39, annual 1944-47

Continent and country	Acreage					Production a/				
	Year beginning August 1 b/					Year beginning August 1 b/				
	Average 1935-39	1944	1945	1946 c/	1947 c/	Average 1935-39	1944	1945	1946 c/	1947 c/
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales	1,000 bales
North America:										
El Salvador	9	32	24	27	35	5	16	11	19	19
Guatemala	-	7	-	7	7	2	4	3	4	-
Mexico	725	963	904	843	865	334	472	434	460	499
Nicaragua	9	4	5	1	-	5	3	4	1	-
United States	27,788	20,009	17,241	17,615	21,269	13,149	12,230	9,015	8,640	11,851
British West Indies	20	16	12	-	-	5	4	3	2	1
Haiti	-	-	40	25	25	22	11	11	8	11
Puerto Rico	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	d/	d/
Total North America e/	28,642	21,078	18,240	18,533	22,215	13,523	12,741	9,483	9,134	12,388
Europe:										
Bulgaria	85	48	61	98	105	35	11	10	20	28
Greece	168	80	72	127	106	76	13	28	50	53
Italy	56	37	34	41	-	21	9	9	12	15
Rumania f/	8	110	109	104	109	2	22	20	9	16
Spain	46	148	72	159	67	10	27	7	23	15
Yugoslavia	8	15	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-
Total Europe (excluding U.S.S.R) e/	372	439	359	544	464	147	87	76	118	136
U.S.S.R. (Europe and Asia)	5,087	2,865	2,995	3,215	3,625	3,430	-	1,700	2,240	2,600
Asia:										
Cyprus	11	4	-	-	-	3	2	1	2	-
Iran	453	290	303	196	205	171	81	92	64	80
Iraq	53	18	25	25	-	11	2	5	4	4
Syria	85	41	44	49	52	28	14	22	22	14
Turkey	667	644	572	690	-	249	225	251	272	250
Afghanistan	-	-	-	-	-	49	-	20	9	9
Burma	428	-	226	135	177	97	85	32	21	33
China(includes Manchuria)	7,038	5,600	5,600	5,556	6,240	2,855	1,600	1,820	1,933	2,145
French Indochina	36	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	2
India and Pakistan g/	24,204	14,843	14,668	14,860	-	5,348	3,693	3,529	3,484	3,450
Korea	564	752	442	312	301	180	228	103	75	62
Netherlands Indies	27	-	-	-	-	9	11	-	1	1
Philippine Islands	5	40	10	5	-	1	8	2	1	d/
Siam	16	-	-	-	-	7	-	17	-	-
Total Asia (excluding U.S.S.R.) e/	33,805	22,865	22,136	21,971	22,237	9,020	5,998	5,914	5,914	6,071

South America:										
Argentina	770	887	813	h/ 980	h/ 1,037	289	332	285	334	367
Brazil	5,562	6,000	5,000	5,500	4,500	1,956	1,626	1,350	1,300	1,300
Colombia	98	-	-	-	-	23	22	21	22	21
Ecuador	40	32	32	35	-	13	8	7	10	5
Paraguay	111	119	124	126	h/ 188	40	40	44	55	46
Peru	428	326	346	309	334	384	325	329	296	315
Venezuela	50	58	-	-	-	11	16	13	11	15
Total South America e/	7,060	7,547	6,512	7,137	6,300	2,716	2,369	2,049	2,028	2,069
Africa and Oceania:										
Anglo-Egyptian Sudan	439	347	321	336	363	248	313	187	235	212
Belgian Congo	874	863	760	766	-	172	168	181	172	172
Kenya	-	-	-	-	-	13	13	4	4	-
Nyasaland	84	-	-	-	-	12	7	7	8	-
Tanganyika	-	-	-	-	-	50	35	35	34	33
Uganda	1,477	1,072	1,146	1,233	-	281	228	191	190	142
Egypt	1,821	885	1,020	1,258	1,302	1,893	962	1,082	1,252	1,283
French Equatorial Africa	390	667	-	-	-	41	100	109	76	115
French Morocco	1	7	4	-	-	d/	3	2	2	d/
French West Africa	-	-	-	-	-	28	21	9	9	9
Mozambique	-	-	-	-	-	i/ 33	92	99	93	95
Nigeria	-	-	-	-	-	36	13	31	29	20
Angola	73	-	-	-	185	13	29	20	27	25
Australia	53	7	7	9	10	11	1	2	2	2
Total Africa and Oceania e/	6,176	5,071	5,193	5,445	5,394	2,840	1,995	1,963	2,136	2,126
Total World	81,142	59,865	55,435	56,845	60,235	31,676	24,785	21,185	21,570	25,390

Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Prepared or estimated on the basis of official statistics of foreign governments, reports of United States foreign service officers and results of office research.

a/ United States production in bales of 500 pounds gross (480 pounds net); others in bales of 478 pounds net through 1945 and 480 pounds thereafter.
b/ Years shown refer to years of harvest; thus the 1947-48 totals are composed of estimates for Northern Hemisphere crops harvested late in 1947 and those for Southern Hemisphere crops harvested early in 1948.
c/ Preliminary.
d/ Less than 500.
e/ All subtotals include estimates for minor-producing countries not listed above and allowances for other figures not available.
f/ Figures from 1943 to date are not comparable with prewar figures because of boundary changes.
g/ All production figures are revised through the adoption of a series compiled by the Indian Central Cotton Committee.
h/ Planted area.
i/ Exports.

COMMODITY DEVELOPMENTS

GRAINS, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

RIO GRANDE DO SUL
RICE EXPORTS UP

Rice exports during the first quarter of 1948 from Rio Grande do Sul, the principal rice-exporting State of Brazil, showed a moderate increase over the corresponding period of the preceding year. Deliveries equalled 100 million pounds compared with 91 million during the January-March period of 1947. Rice was shipped to countries in the following amounts (million pounds): Netherlands Indies, 42; India, 26; Reunion Island, 14 Malayan Union, 6; British Empire, 6; Belgium 3, and Czechoslovakia, 2.

First-quarter exports of 1948 were from carry-over stocks of the 1947 crop. These stocks were larger than average, since exports of the 1947 production were held up pending sales at higher prices than were offered. A smaller harvest in Rio Grande do Sul during the April-June 1948 harvesting period than in the year before is expected to result in a drop in export availabilities. Furthermore, smaller harvests in 1948 in other Brazilian States may result in some increase in the amount required for rice shipments from Rio Grande do Sul to other parts of Brazil. The latest estimates for the exportable surplus to foreign countries of the new crop is 150 million pounds.

RIO GRANDE DO SUL: Rice shipments to Brazilian States, January-March 1948, with comparisons

State	Average 1936-40	1945	1946	1947	January-March 1947	January-March 1948
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds
Federal District	136	145	142	113	(39	(54
Rio de Janeiro	9	13	21	53	(	(
Sao Paulo	84	2	0	0	0	2
Parana	12	8	1	0	0	0
Bahia	7	13	21	16	2	4
Pernambuco	9	17	21	17	2	5
Others	13	18	30	36	10	8
Total shipments	270	216	236	235	53	73
Foreign exports	71	160	309	214	91	100

American Consulate, Porto Alegre, Brazil.

(Continued on Page 374)

TROPICAL PRODUCTS

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO CACAO CROP LARGER THAN EXPECTED

The 1947-48 cacao harvest in Trinidad and Tobago, forecast earlier in the season at 9 million pounds, now is estimated at 12 to 14 million pounds, which is the largest output in recent years. The increase is attributed to favorable weather conditions, and unprecedented high prices which have resulted in closer than normal harvesting.

Nearly all the United States 1947-48 allocation of 5,376,000 pounds of Trinidad cacao has been shipped. During the calendar year 1947 exports from Trinidad and Tobago totaled approximately 8,965,000 pounds, of which 5,687,000 were destined to the United States, 1,958,000 to the United Kingdom, 1,019,000 to other European countries, and 301,000 pounds to the Union of South Africa. During 1946, about 6,625,000 pounds of cacao were exported from Trinidad and Tobago.

CUBA'S COFFEE CROP SMALLER

The 1947-48 coffee crop in Cuba, now estimated at 557,000 bags, falls short of early forecasts and also of the previous season's outturn of 589,000 bags. Since domestic consumption requirements are estimated at slightly over 600,000 bags annually, coffee will need to be imported in order to meet domestic needs. Exports of coffee from Cuba still are prohibited on account of the short domestic supply.

JAVA'S COFFEE OUTPUT FRACTION OF PREWAR

Java's coffee production during 1948 is estimated at 250,000 bags, which is a little over one-fourth of the prewar (1935-39) output. According to the Netherlands Indies Department of Economic Affairs, there are to-day 189 coffee estates in Java with a total area of 143,000 acres. Only 50 estates covering 44,000 acres had actually been repossessed by the Dutch and were in production during the first quarter of 1948. Output from these repossessed plantations during 1948 is placed at 150,000 bags and from those not yet repossessed at 100,000, making a total of 250,000 bags for the Island. Only about 85,000 bags are expected to be available for export from Java in 1948, as about 165,000 bags are considered necessary for domestic requirements. Total shipments of coffee from the Netherlands Indies, however, are expected to exceed 85,000 bags, as undetermined quantities of coffee will be available for export from Sumatra.

The coffee industry in Java is essentially plantation-type in contrast to the native type predominating in Sumatra and other parts of the Netherlands Indies. The coffee is harvested from April to October with heaviest picking usually in August. In prewar years, Java accounted for about 40 percent of the Netherlands Indies total coffee production, or about 800,000 bags annually.

COTTON AND OTHER FIBER

COTTON-PRICE QUOTATIONS ON FOREIGN MARKETS

The following table shows certain cotton-price quotations on foreign markets, converted at current rates of exchange:

COTTON: Spot prices of certain foreign growths and qualities in specific markets

Market location, kind, and quality	Date 1948	Unit of weight	Unit of currency	Price in foreign currency	Equivalent U.S. cents per pound
Alexandria		Kantar			
Ashmouni, Good	5-6	99.05 lbs.	Tallari	86.00	71.75
Ashmouni, F.G.F.	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Giza 7, Good	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Giza 7, F.G.F.	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Karnak, Good	"	"	"	113.00	94.28
Karnak, F.G.F.	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Bombay		Candy			
Jarila, Fine	"	784 lbs.	Rupee	715.00	27.51
Broach, Fine	"	"	"	885.00	34.06
Sind American, Fine	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Punjab " 289-F, Fine	"	"	"	(not quoted)	
Kampala, East African	"	"	"	(not available)	
Buenos Aires		Metric ton			
Type B	5-7	2204.6 lbs.	Peso	3,000.00	40.52
Lima		Sp. quintal			
Tanguis, Type 5	5-6	101.4 lbs.	Sol	222.00	33.68
Pima, Type 1	"	"	"	272.00	41.26
Recife		Arroba			
Mata, Type 5	5-7	33.07 lbs.	Cruzeiro	155.00	25.50
Sertao, Type 5	"	"	"	165.00	27.15
Sao Paulo					
Sao Paulo, Type 5	"	"	"	180.50	29.70
Torreon		Sp. quintal			
Middling, 15/16"	"	101.4 lbs.	Peso	167.00	33.88

Compiled from weekly cables from representatives abroad.

HEMP PRODUCTION INCREASES IN CHILE

A preliminary forecast of nearly 12,600,000 pounds of hemp to be harvested in Chile this spring from 12,430 acres has been announced by the Chilean Ministry of Agriculture. If this production be realized, the crop will exceed those of 1946 and 1947, which were 11,840,000 pounds and 8,610,000 pounds, respectively. The average yield of more than 1,000 pounds per acre will be the largest in many years, except in 1945 when an average of nearly 1,190 pounds per acre was obtained. The total crop in 1945 was 13,340,000 pounds.

Hemp production in Chile increased from 11,760,000 pounds in 1940 to 45,170,000 pounds in 1943, then decreased to 8,610,000 pounds in 1947. The comparatively small crop in 1947 resulted partially from a decrease in acreage and partially from the comparatively low average yield which was reduced by drought to only about 830 pounds per acre.

During the past six years the Province of Aconcagua has ranked first in production, with from 37 to 61 percent of the total for the country O'Higgins was second in 1942 and 1943 with 12 and 26 percent, respectively, but Valparaiso was second during the next four years with a percentage ranging from 23 to 36 percent of the total.

Chile: Hemp area and fiber production, by provinces, for year of harvest a/, 1947 with comparisons.

Province	Area b/			Production		
	1943	Average 1944-46	1947	1943	Average 1944-46	1947
	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 acres	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Aconcagua	21.2	7.2	7.0	16,550	7,430	4,980
Valparaiso	6.2	3.5	2.8	4,850	3,660	3,090
Santiago	7.8	.4	.1	5,730	440	90
O'Higgins	8.9	.9	.1	11,970	1,010	130
Colchagua	3.2	.2	.2	2,750	160	210
Others c/	3.0	.1	.1	3,320	110	110
Total	50.3	12.3	10.3	45,170	12,810	8,610

a/ Harvest is usually about March to May.
b/ Includes area for seed and fiber.
c/ Includes Coquimbo, Curico, Talca, and Linares.
Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Compiled from reports of the Chilean Ministry of Agriculture.

Exports of hemp fiber from Chile in recent years were sent principally to Argentina, Brazil, the United Kingdom, Norway, Spain and France. Spain and the Soviet Union accounted for 76 percent of the total in the first six months of 1947. In prewar years, both fiber and tow were exported principally to the United Kingdom and Germany, but during the war Germany was replaced by Argentina, the United States, and Brazil. Hemp twine and rope were exported principally to the United Kingdom and South American countries during the war, but Sweden and Switzerland have also come into the market in recent years. However, 73 percent of the total exports of twine and rope were shipped to the United Kingdom during the first six months of 1947.

(Table on following page)

Chile: Hemp exports, by countries, calendar years 1945 and 1946 and January-June 1946 and 1947

Commodity and Country of destination	Calendar year		January-June	
	1945	1946	1946	1947
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Fiber:				
Argentina	4,619	2,332	1,314	952
Brazil	1,886	864	762	0
United States	139	198	0	99
United Kingdom	7,152	1,063	1,063	196
France	0	1,421	1,421	0
Norway	2,206	2	2	0
Spain	566	1,543	305	2,006
Sweden	792	794	791	121
Switzerland	485	154	399	0
Other countries	118	770	262	a/ 2,419
Total fiber	17,963	9,141	6,319	5,793
Tow:				
Argentina	259	201	b/	101
Ecuador	307	337	0	0
United States	0	298	254	0
Uraguay	874	218	11	0
Sweden	0	639	218	0
Other countries	0	24	2	c/ 258
Total tow	1,440	1,717	485	359

a/ The Soviet Union accounted for 2,419,000 pounds of this. b/ Less than 500 pounds. c/ Belgium accounted for 257,000 pounds of this. Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. Compiled from data from "Superintendencia de Aduanas (Ministerio de Economia y Comercio)."

TOBACCO

AUSTRALIAN TOBACCO CONSUMPTION REDUCED

As a result of curtailed imports of leaf due to shortages in dollar exchange and the low 1947-48 leaf production in the country, manufacture of tobacco products in Australia has been reduced.

Imports of leaf into Australia during 1948 are expected to fall substantially below the 1947 import of 21,333,000 pounds. Imports in 1946 totaled 22,164,000 pounds and the average annual import during 1941-45 was 21,591,000 pounds.

Anticipated lower 1948 imports result from actions taken by the Australian Government to conserve dollar exchange. In September 1947, the Government restricted dollar expenditures for United States tobacco to 80 percent of imports during the fiscal year July 1946-June 1947.

Subsequently, it was announced that dollar expenditures for leaf during the fiscal year July 1948-June 1949 will be cut to approximately 50 percent of the 1946-47 expenditures. Attempts will be made to obtain substitutes for American leaf from Southern Rhodesia and other Sterling areas, but it is believed that total imports in 1948 and 1949 will fall below the imports during the past several years.

In addition to curtailed imports, supplies of leaf have been reduced by the short 1947-48 Australian crop. As a result of unfavorable weather during the growing season, yields per acre for the 1947-48 crop were lower than for any year since 1938-39 and 1947-48 production totaled only 2,392,000 pounds, as compared with 4,231,000 in 1946-47, and the 5-year average production 1941-42 through 1945-46 of 4,398,000 pounds.

Consumption of tobacco products in Australia for the fiscal year 1946-47 was the largest on record, but supplies were below effective demand. Government control of the distribution of tobacco products was discontinued on March 31, 1947 but voluntary restrictions on consumption have been maintained by manufacturers and retailers. Throughout 1947 monthly sales of cigarettes ranged from 100 to 115 percent of average monthly sales for the base year ending September 30, 1940, and sales of tobacco products ranged from 90 to 100 percent of monthly sales during the base period. Beginning with January 1948, however, monthly sales of cigarettes have only been 95 percent, and sales of tobacco products 80 percent of average monthly sales during the base period.

SPAIN RESTRICTS PURCHASES OF U.S. TOBACCO

As a result of a shortage in dollar exchange there were no imports of United States tobacco into Spain in 1947. Production of domestic leaf in 1946 and 1947 was at record levels. Imports of leaf from sources other than the United States were increased and consumption was substantially above the prewar level.

Imports of leaf into Spain in 1947 totaled approximately 57,000,000 pounds, as compared with 32,000,000 pounds in 1946. Imports in both 1946 and 1947 were substantially above the average for recent years, but considerably below the average annual imports prior to the Spanish Civil War (July 1936-March 1939) of over 60,000,000 pounds. Imports from the United States in recent years have been insignificant as compared with the average annual pre-Civil War imports of over 9,000,000 pounds. Decrease in imports from the United States have been offset by larger imports from Brazil and other countries, and by larger domestic production.

Spain's 1947 crop is estimated to have totaled over 30,000,000 pounds, as compared with the 1946 crop of 32,448,000 pounds and the average 1941-45 of 18,551,000 pounds. Production in pre-Civil War years averaged about 12,000,000 pounds annually.

Leaf used in the manufacture of products in Spain in 1947 totaled about 73,400,000 pounds, as compared with 63,600,000 in 1946 and the 1941-45 average of 36,300,000 pounds. Quantities of leaf used in domestic manufacture in pre-Civil War years averaged about 60,000,000 pounds annually.

Despite increased production of products, supplies available are substantially below consumer demands and products have continued under rationing. The ration of domestic-made cigarettes and smoking tobacco in early March was four packages of cigarettes or 100 grams of smoking tobacco for a 10-day period.

SWEDEN CURTAILS CONSUMPTION OF U.S. TOBACCO

As a result of shortages in dollar exchange Sweden has curtailed purchases of United States leaf and cigarettes, and restricted the use of American leaf in cigarettes manufactured in Sweden.

In 1947, 87 percent of Sweden's import of leaf tobacco and 97 percent of its imports of cigarettes came from the United States. As a result of shortages in exchange, however, future purchases from the United States will be greatly curtailed and supplies will be obtained from other sources. It is reported that approximately $8,000,000 were expended by Sweden for leaf purchases in the United States in 1947, and it is anticipated that only about $2,000,000 will be made available for leaf purchases in 1948. The purchase of cigarettes will also be sharply curtailed. Attempts will be made to obtain substitutes for United States leaf in India and South Africa, and the country will import larger quantities of Oriental-type tobaccos from Turkey and Greece. With respect to cigarettes it is planned that the bulk of 1948 purchases will come from the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, and Norway.

Decreased purchases of United States leaf will necessitate a substantial change in the proportion of types of leaf used in the manufacture of products in Sweden. In recent years, cigarettes manufactured in Sweden have been almost entirely of the American-blended type, comprised of about 90 percent American tobacco and 10 percent Oriental types. For 1948, leaf used in cigarettes will include only about 50 percent American leaf, 15 percent Oriental types, and 35 percent Indian and South African tobacco. The use of 50 percent American leaf is made possible by relatively large stocks now held in Sweden. If shortages in exchange continue to restrict imports of United States leaf, the proportion used in the manufacture of cigarettes in the country will eventually fall below 50 percent.

EIRE'S TOBACCO CONSUMPTION AT RECORD LEVEL

Leaf tobacco used in the production of manufactured products in Ireland in 1947 totaled 12,329,000 pounds, as compared with 11,958,000 in 1946. The 1947 consumption is the highest on record, with the possible exception of 1930.

Imports of leaf during 1947, almost entirely from the United States, totaled 14,378,000 pounds, as compared with 15,526,000 in 1946 and the 5-year average 1941-45 of 9,633,000 pounds. Due to shortages in exchange, the use of dollars for the purchase of tobacco was discontinued in November 1947 and, unless the exchange situation is corrected, Ireland's 1948 imports of leaf will be sharply curtailed.

Stocks of leaf at the end of February 1948 totaled 16,812,000 pounds,

as compared with 15,396,000 on the corresponding date in 1947. The apparent inconsistency between higher leaf stocks at the end of February 1948 and increased consumption and lower imports in 1947 is explained by leaf imports during January-February 1948 and the consumption of increased quantities of stems.

FATS AND OILS

U. S. EXPORTS MORE FATS AND OILS

In contrast to imports, United States exports of specified fats, oils, and oil seeds were larger during January-March than in the corresponding months of 1947. The total was 245.8 million pounds (in terms of oil) as against 190.6 million last year. Soybeans, soybean oil, peanuts, peanut oil, and cottonseed oil account for the bulk of the increase. Lard, cooking fats, and oleomargarine shipments were smaller than in the first quarter of 1947.

UNITED STATES: Exports of specified fats, oils, and oilseeds, March 1948 with comparisons.

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1946	1947	January-March 1947	January-March 1948
Soybeans	1,000 bu.	a/ 4,793	2,906	1,683	534	1,241
Soybean oil:						
Refined	" lbs.	(6,467	72,583	38,450	7,440	17,085
Crude	" "		13,228	69,130	6,163	18,006
Coconut oil:						
Refined	" "	3,789	935	5,691	479	4,951
Crude	" "	10,442	47,366	52,849	20,115	4,457
Cottonseed oil:						
Refined	" "	4,793	5,857	10,942	1,246	14,432
Crude	" "	1,515	244	901	10	1,648
Linseed oil	" "	1,280	1,625	7,721	190	3,958
Peanuts:						
Shelled	" "	(	61,043	211,010	80,918	158,099
Not shelled	" "	b/ (452	7,066	18,681	9,878	2,364
Peanut oil, refined	" "	c/ 325	75	1,579	8	546
Cooking fats	" "	2,111	11,424	3,582	1,321	822
Lard	" "	165,636	430,682	354,184	101,718	96,217
Oleomargarine	" "	180	50,483	19,954	6,806	2,047
Tallow:						
Edible	" "	(	4,151	601	40	667
Inedible	" "	b/ (1,651	6,472	55,051	4,989	5,892

Compiled from official sources.
Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, Fats and Oils Division.

a/ Average of less than 5 years.
b/ Not separately classified in Foreign Commerce and Navigation.
c/ 1939 only

U. S. IMPORTS OF FATS AND OILS CONTINUE DOWNWARD

United States imports of specified fats and oils (in terms of oil) totaled 370 million pounds during the first quarter of 1948 compared with 414 million for the same period a year ago. Copra imports were 18 percent less, but coconut oil arrivals, though small, almost trebled those of a year ago. Imports of castor oil, flaxseed, linseed oil, oiticica oil, sesame seed, tea-seed oil, and tung oil were smaller than for the same months of 1947.

UNITED STATES: Imports a/ of specified oils and oilseeds, March 1948 with comparisons.

Commodity	Unit	Average 1935-39	1946	1947	January-March 1947	January-March 1948
Babassu Kernels	1000 lbs.	b/	39,463	22,233	15,364	19,540
Babassu oil	" "	c/ 346	2,314	1,747	0	1,003
Castor-beans	" "	132,924	226,295	276,807	91,062	93,988
Castor oil	" "	226	6,450	6,595	4,964	1,108
Flaxseed	" bu.	18,470	3,394	282	44	13
Linseed oil	" lbs.	713	94,405	117,326	28,845	1,847
Copra	Short tons	230,000	394,696	677,660	198,567	163,226
Coconut oil	1000 lbs.	342,717	2,353	23,559	8,459	25,039
Oiticica oil	" "	c/ 7,673	22,593	8,471	4,722	980
Olive oil:						
Edible	" "	62,811	12,660	11,250	2,949	7,188
Inedible	" "	35,448	103	248	139	4,210
Palm oil	" ""	321,482	37,850	63,212	11,620	17,680
Sesame seed	" "	58,425	4,891	9,479	3,744	2,598
Tea seed oil	" "	13,159	88	6,377	602	523
Tucum kernels	" "	d/ 9,810	12,709	16,887	2,557	4,345
Tung oil	" "	123,190	36,207	121,564	46,758	46,342

Compiled from official sources.
a/ Imports for consumption. b/ Not separately classified in Foreign Commerce and Navigation. c/ Average of less than five years. d/ 1939 only.

LIVESTOCK AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS

NEW DANISH CHEESE FACTORY

Denmark's cheese production in the postwar period has been largely for export, in contrast to the prewar period when it was for the domestic market. Construction of a new cooperative cheese factory at Klemensker, in Bornholm, is expected to begin this summer, at a cost of approximately $396,000. This plant should be ready for cheese manufacture within two years, and will concentrate on Danish-type Roquefort cheese for export.

WORLD CITRUS - - (Continued from Page 360)

In South America, Argentina and Chile produce around 1.5 million boxes, about twice as much as they did during 1935-39. Production in Africa, estimated at 600 thousand boxes, is about the same as last year but 60 percent more than was produced prewar. Australia's and New Zealand's production of 484 thousand boxes is about a normal estimate.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, Gustave Burmeister, Ruth G. Tucker. Lois E. Bacon, Mary E. Long, Constance H. Farnworth.

GRAIN, GRAIN PRODUCTS AND FEEDS

CANADIAN GRAIN SEEDING DELAYED

(Continued from Page 365)

Seeding of spring grains in Canada began early in May under extremely variable conditions, according to recent reports. Unseasonably cold weather delayed operations over much of the Prairie Provinces during the first week of May. Flooding at many points of those three Provinces also caused some delay. As a result of the delays, it appears likely that general seeding may be the latest on record over most of the wheat belt.

The first official report of seeding progress. released May 11, indicated that though seeding was underway in some district of southern Alberta, Saskatchewan and scattered points in Manitoba, seeding would not become general before May 15-20. While the flooding has created serious local problems, the abundant moisture supply in the Prairie Provinces is otherwise favorable.

The season is also late in the Maritime Provinces and in British Columbia. In contrast, conditions in Quebec and Ontario are further advanced than at this time a year ago, and the weather has generally favored seeding operations. Fall-sown wheat, which is grown principally in Ontario, wintered well and appears promising.

MEXICO'S GRAIN PROSPECTS FAVORABLE

The outlook for the wheat crop in Mexico is unusually favorable, and production is expected to be about 18 million bushels. At that figure the crop now being harvested would be a near-record one, and would be well above the production for any recent year. Current favorable prospects are based on expected better-than-average yields and a substantial acreage increase.

The acreage, placed at about 1.5 million acres is considerably larger than last year's area of 1.2 million acres and approximates the acreage planned under the program for expansion of essential crops. (See Foreign Crops and Markets, March 1, 1948. The support prices for wheat of the 1948 crop has been announced at the equivalent of $2.80 per bushel.

The condition of barley is reported to be normal for the country as a whole, and the present outlook is for a crop of about 4.6 million bushels of all barley. This would be about the same as the 1947 crop, which was larger than the average for 1935-39.

WORLD COTTON--(Continued from Page 362)

Acreage and production in Korea have declined steadily since the end of the war as the urgent need for food crops forced prices to a more favorable level than for cotton and caused some diversion from cotton. The 1947 crop of 62,000 bales was slightly less than the 75,000 harvested in 1946 and only about one-third of the 1935-39 average.

The 1947-48 crop in Argentina is still being picked but present indications are for a crop of about 367,000 bales or 10 percent above the 1946 estimate of 334,000 bales. The acreage increase amounted to only 6 percent but growing conditions were more favorable than in 1946 despite some locust damage.

The latest official estimate for the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil, placed the 1947-48 crop in that state at 825,000 bales. Adding a rough estimate of 50,000 bales for other south Brazilian states and 425,000 for all of north Brazil a preliminary 1947-48 estimate of 1,300,000 bales is arrived at for all Brazil. This estimate is about equal to the small crops of the previous two years.

The small 1947-48 crop in south Brazil is attributed to reduced acreage rather than to unfavorable weather and poor yields as was the case in the two previous years. Official acreage estimates are not available but the reduction this year may average nearly 20 percent for the country as a whole.

Production in Colombia averages around 20,000 bales with little variation from year to year. In Paraguay, planting was delayed last year by civil war and the crop was damaged later by grasshoppers, caterpillars and drought during the growing period. Despite these handicaps there was a small increase in acreage but poor yields are expected to result in a 1947-48 crop of only 46,000 bales compared with 55,000 a year ago.

Only a slight increase in acreage is reported in Peru where cotton acreage has remained since the end of the war at about the level (20 percent reduction) enforced by legislation under the terms of a wartime cotton purchase arrangement with the United States. The 1947-48 crop of 315,000 bales from 334,000 acres indicates a yield per acre about equal to that of 1946-47 when a crop of 296,000 bales was harvested from 309,000 acres.

Little information is available regarding the 1947-48 crop in the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan except statistics showing a harvest of 212,000 bales from 363,000 acres compared with 235,000 bales from 336,000 acres a year ago. A 16.5 percent reduction in yield per acre is apparent. American-type cotton, 11,100 bales, represented only 5.2 percent of the 1947-48 crop but was more than triple the 1946-47 crop of this type while Egyptian types (Sakellaridis), declined by 15,000 bales.

Production in the Belgian Congo is not expected to exceed that in 1946-47 when a crop of 172,000 bales was harvested from 766,000 acres. There were fewer native planters in 1947-48 and some decrease in acreage was expected.

In British East Africa (Uganda, Kenya and Tanganyika) production in 1947-48 amounted to only 179,000 bales compared with 228,000 a year ago. The reduction is attributed to drought in Uganda that resulted in stunted plants and premature opening of bolls.

The 1947 crop of 1,283,000 bales in Egypt barely exceeds the 1946 crop of 1,252,000. Acreage and production have increased gradually since the low point of 1943 when cotton acreage restrictions resulted in a crop of only 740,000 bales from 740,000 acres. Despite this steady increase the 1947 crop amounts to only 68 percent of the prewar average.

Cotton acreage restrictions, imposed in 1941 to stimulate greater production of food commodities, are still in effect but have been moderated to some extent each year. The restrictions are more severe for the areas in northern Egypt producing Karnak and other extra long-staple varieties than in Upper Egypt where the shorter staple varieties are grown. There are no restrictions on the cultivation of Menoufi.

The area authorized for the entire crop in 1948 is set at 1,194,000 acres compared with a legal area of 1,105,000 for 1947. Official acreage estimates for postwar years, however, indicate the usual planting of 100,000 to 200,000 additional acres.

Cotton production in other parts of Africa has not varied much in recent years. Some effort is being made in these colonial areas, i.e., Angola, Mozambique, Nigeria, French Equatorial Africa and French West Africa to improve quality and increase production but thus far little increase in production has been achieved since 1940. Prior to that year, a sharp upward trend may be noted.

This is one of a series of regularly scheduled reports on world agricultural production approved by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations Committee on Foreign Crop and Livestock Statistics. For this report, the Committee was composed of Joseph A. Becker, Chairman, C. M. Purves, A. W. Palmer, P.K.Norris, C.H.Barber, Lazar Volin and William Kling.